

(3) *Special election period.* All individuals will be provided with a special election period, as described in § 422.62(b)(4).

[63 FR 35071, June 26, 1998; 63 FR 52612, Oct. 1, 1998; 63 FR 54526, Oct. 9, 1998; 64 FR 7980, Feb. 17, 1999; 65 FR 40316, June 29, 2000; 70 FR 4716, Jan. 28, 2005; 70 FR 52026, Sept. 1, 2005; 74 FR 1541, Jan. 12, 2009; 77 FR 22166, Apr. 12, 2012]

§ 422.62 Election of coverage under an MA plan.

(a) *General: Coverage election periods—*

(1) *Initial coverage election period for MA.* The initial coverage election period is the period during which a newly MA-eligible individual may make an initial election. This period begins 3 months before the month the individual is first entitled to both Part A and Part B and ends on the later of—

(i) The last day of the month preceding the month of entitlement; or

(ii) If after May 15, 2006, the last day of the individual's Part B initial enrollment period.

(2) *Annual coordinated election period.*

(i) For 2002 through 2010, except for 2006, the annual coordinated election period for the following calendar year is November 15 through December 31.

(ii) For 2006, the annual coordinated election period begins on November 15, 2005 and ends on May 15, 2006.

(iii) Beginning in 2011, the annual coordinated election period for the following calendar year is October 15 through December 7.

(iv) During the annual coordinated election period, an individual eligible to enroll in an MA plan may change his or her election from an MA plan to Original Medicare or to a different MA plan, or from Original Medicare to an MA plan. If an individual changes his or her election to Original Medicare, he or she may also elect a PDP.

(3) *Open enrollment and disenrollment opportunities through 2005.* Through 2005, the number of elections or changes that an MA eligible individual may make is not limited (except as provided for in paragraph (d) of this section for MA MSA plans). Subject to the MA plan being open to enrollees as provided under § 422.60(a)(2), an individual eligible to elect an MA plan may change his or her election from an MA

plan to original Medicare or to a different MA plan, or from original Medicare to an MA plan.

(4) *Open enrollment and disenrollment during 2006.* (i) Except as provided in paragraphs (a)(4)(ii), (a)(4)(iii), and (a)(6) of this section, an individual who is not enrolled in an MA plan, but who is eligible to elect an MA plan in 2006, may elect an MA plan only once during the first 6 months of the year.

(A) An individual who is enrolled in an MA-PD plan may elect another MA-PD plan or original Medicare and coverage under a PDP. Such an individual may not elect an MA plan that does not provide qualified prescription drug coverage.

(B) An individual who is enrolled in an MA plan that does not provide qualified prescription drug coverage may elect another MA plan that does not provide that coverage or original Medicare. Such an individual may not elect an MA-PD plan or coverage under a PDP.

(ii) *Newly eligible MA individual.* An individual who becomes MA eligible during 2006 may elect an MA plan or change his or her election once during the period that begins the month the individual is entitled to both Part A and Part B and ends on the last day of the 6th month of the entitlement, or on December 31, whichever is earlier, subject to the limitations in paragraphs (a)(4)(i)(A) and (a)(4)(i)(B) of this section.

(iii) The limitation to one election or change in paragraphs (a)(4)(i) and (a)(4)(ii) of this section does not apply to elections or changes made during the annual coordinated election period specified in paragraph (a)(2) of this section or during a special election period specified in paragraph (b) of this section.

(5) *Open enrollment and disenrollment from 2007 through 2010.* (i) Open enrollment period. For 2007 through 2010, except as provided in paragraphs (a)(5)(ii), (iii), and (a)(6) of this section, an individual who is not enrolled in an MA plan but is eligible to elect an MA plan may make an election into an MA plan once during the first 3 months of the year.

(ii) *Newly eligible MA individual.* An individual who becomes MA eligible in

2007 through 2010 may elect an MA plan or change his or her election once during the period that begins the month the individual is entitled to both Part A and Part B and ends on the last day of the third month of the entitlement, or on December 31, whichever is earlier, subject to the limitations in paragraphs (a)(5)(i)(A) and (a)(5)(i)(B) of this section.

(iii) *Single election limitation.* The limitation to one election or change in paragraphs (a)(5)(i) and (a)(5)(ii) of this section does not apply to elections or changes made during the annual coordinated election period specified in paragraph (a)(2) of this section, or during a special election period specified in paragraph (b) of this section.

(6) *Open enrollment period for institutionalized individuals.* After 2005, an individual who is eligible to elect an MA plan and who is institutionalized, as defined by CMS, is not limited (except as provided for in paragraph (d) of this section for MA MSA plans) in the number of elections or changes he or she may make. Subject to the MA plan being open to enrollees as provided under § 422.60(a)(2), an MA eligible institutionalized individual may at any time elect an MA plan or change his or her election from an MA plan to original Medicare, to a different MA plan, or from original Medicare to an MA plan.

(7) *Annual 45-day period for disenrollment from MA plans to Original Medicare.* For 2011 and subsequent years, at any time from January 1 through February 14, an individual who is enrolled in an MA plan may elect Original Medicare once during this 45-day period. An individual who chooses to exercise this election may also make a coordinating election to enroll in a PDP as specified in § 423.38(d).

(b) *Special election periods.* An individual may at any time (that is, not limited to the annual coordinated election period) discontinue the election of an MA plan offered by an MA organization and change his or her election, in the form and manner specified by CMS, from an MA plan to original Medicare or to a different MA plan under any of the following circumstances:

(1) CMS or the organization has terminated the organization's contract for

the plan, discontinued the plan in the area in which the individual resides, or the organization has notified the individual of the impending termination of the plan, or the impending discontinuation of the plan in the area in which the individual resides.

(2) The individual is not eligible to remain enrolled in the plan because of a change in his or her place of residence to a location out of the service area or continuation area or other change in circumstances as determined by CMS but not including terminations resulting from a failure to make timely payment of an MA monthly or supplemental beneficiary premium, or from disruptive behavior.

(3) The individual demonstrates to CMS, in accordance with guidelines issued by CMS, that—

(i) The organization offering the plan substantially violated a material provision of its contract under this part in relation to the individual, including, but not limited to the following:

(A) Failure to provide the beneficiary on a timely basis medically necessary services for which benefits are available under the plan.

(B) Failure to provide medical services in accordance with applicable quality standards; or

(ii) The organization (or its agent, representative, or plan provider) materially misrepresented the plan's provisions in marketing the plan to the individual.

(4) The individual meets such other exceptional conditions as CMS may provide.

(c) *Special election period for individual age 65.* Effective January 1, 2002, an MA eligible individual who elects an MA plan during the initial enrollment period, as defined under section 1837(d) of the Act, that surrounds his or her 65th birthday (this period begins 3 months before and ends 3 months after the month of the individual's 65th birthday) may discontinue the election of that plan and elect coverage under original Medicare at any time during the 12-month period that begins on the effective date of enrollment in the MA plan.

(d) *Special rules for MA MSA plans—(1) Enrollment.* An individual may enroll in an MA MSA plan only during an initial

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coverage election period or annual coordinated election period described in paragraphs (a)(1) and (a)(2) of this section.

(2) *Disenrollment.* (i) Except as provided in paragraph (d)(2)(ii) of this section, an individual may disenroll from an MA MSA plan only during—

(A) An annual election period; or

(B) The special election period described in paragraph (b) of this section.

(ii) *Exception.* An individual who elects an MA MSA plan during an annual election period and has never before elected an MA MSA plan may revoke that election, no later than December 15 of that same year, by submitting to the organization that offers the MA MSA plan a signed and dated request in the form and manner prescribed by CMS or by filing the appropriate disenrollment form through other mechanisms as determined by CMS.

[63 FR 35071, June 26, 1998; 63 FR 52612, Oct. 1, 1998, as amended at 65 FR 40317, June 29, 2000; 70 FR 4717, Jan. 28, 2005; 76 FR 21561, Apr. 15, 2011]

§ 422.64 Information about the MA program.

Each MA organization must provide, on an annual basis, and in a format and using standard terminology that may be specified by CMS, the information necessary to enable CMS to provide to current and potential beneficiaries the information they need to make informed decisions with respect to the available choices for Medicare coverage.

[65 FR 40317, June 29, 2000]

§ 422.66 Coordination of enrollment and disenrollment through MA organizations.

(a) *Enrollment.* An individual who wishes to elect an MA plan offered by an MA organization may make or change his or her election during the election periods specified in § 422.62 by filing the appropriate election form with the organization or through other mechanisms as determined by CMS.

(b) *Disenrollment—(1) Basic rule.* An individual who wishes to disenroll from an MA plan may change his or her election during the election periods speci-

fied in § 422.62 in either of the following manners:

(i) Elect a different MA plan by filing the appropriate election with the MA organization.

(ii) Submit a request for disenrollment to the MA organization in the form and manner prescribed by CMS or file the appropriate disenrollment request through other mechanisms as determined by CMS.

(2) *When a disenrollment request is considered to have been made.* A disenrollment request is considered to have been made on the date the disenrollment request is received by the MA organization.

(3) *Responsibilities of the MA organization.* The MA organization must—

(i) Submit a disenrollment notice to CMS within timeframes specified by CMS;

(ii) Provide enrollee with notice of disenrollment in a format specified by CMS; and

(iii) In the case of a plan where lock-in applies, include in the notice a statement explaining that he or she—

(A) Remains enrolled until the effective date of disenrollment; and

(B) Until that date, neither the MA organization nor CMS pays for services not provided or arranged for by the MA plan in which the enrollee is enrolled; and

(iv) File and retain disenrollment requests for the period specified in CMS instructions.

(4) *Effect of failure to submit disenrollment notice to CMS promptly.* If the MA organization fails to submit the correct and complete notice required in paragraph (b)(3)(i) of this section, the MA organization must reimburse CMS for any capitation payments received after the month in which payment would have ceased if the requirement had been met timely.

(5) *Retroactive disenrollment.* CMS may grant retroactive disenrollment in the following cases:

(i) There never was a legally valid enrollment.

(ii) A valid request for disenrollment was properly made but not processed or acted upon.

(c) *Election by default: Initial coverage election period.* An individual who fails to make an election during the initial